CLAIMS

The current claim listing is as follows.

1-38.   (Canceled).

39.   (Previously presented) An apparatus comprising:

a processor to store predicate values in a first register file including a first plurality of predicate registers,

the processor to execute a first instruction to write predicate values to a second register file including a second plurality of predicate registers prior to commitment of the first instruction,

the processor to execute a second instruction pending with the first instruction and having a data dependency with the first instruction to access the first register file prior to commitment of the first instruction.

40.   (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the processor is to maintain a select register to identify a selected register file.

41.   (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the processor is to allocate the second register file to execute the first instruction.

42.   (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 41, wherein the processor is to maintain a free file list to identify a register file to be allocated.

43.   (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the processor is to deallocate the first register file.

44.   (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the processor is to copy predicate values from the first register file to the second register file.

45.   (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the processor is to maintain a scoreboard to identify any predicate values in the first register file to be written by a pending instruction.

46.   (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the processor is to stall a third instruction with which a pending instruction to write a predicate value to the first register file has a data dependency.

47.   (Previously presented) The apparatus of claim 39, wherein the processor is to write to the second register file in response to the first register file having a predicate value to be written by a pending instruction.

48.   (Previously presented) A method comprising:
        storing predicate values in a first register file including a first plurality of predicate registers;
        executing a first instruction to write predicate values to a second register file including a second plurality of predicate registers prior to commitment of the first instruction; and
        executing a second instruction pending with the first instruction and having a data dependency with the first instruction to access the first register file prior to commitment of the first instruction.

49.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, comprising allocating the second register file to execute the first instruction.

50.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, comprising deallocating the first register file.

51.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, comprising copying predicate values from the first register file to the second register file.

52.   (Previously presented) The method of claim 48, wherein executing a first instruction comprises writing to the second register file in response to the first register file having a predicate value to be written by a pending instruction.

53.   (Previously presented) A computer readable medium having code to cause a processor to:

store predicate values in a first register file including a first plurality of predicate registers;

execute a first instruction to write predicate values to a second register file including a second plurality of predicate registers prior to commitment of the first instruction; and

execute a second instruction pending with the first instruction and having a data dependency with the first instruction to access the first register file prior to commitment of the first instruction.

54.   (Previously presented) The medium of claim 53, wherein the medium has code to cause the processor to copy predicate values from the first register file to the second register file.

55.   (Previously presented) The medium of claim 53, wherein the medium has code to cause the processor to write to the second register file in response to the first register file having a predicate value to be written by a pending instruction.

56.   (Previously presented) A system comprising:

a processor to store predicate values in a first register file including a first plurality of predicate registers, the processor to execute a first instruction to write predicate values to a second register file including a second plurality of predicate registers prior to commitment of the first instruction, the processor to execute a second instruction pending with the first instruction

and having a data dependency with the first instruction to access the first register file prior to commitment of the first instruction; and

a disk drive coupled to the processor.

57.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 56, wherein the processor is to copy predicate values from the first register file to the second register file.

58.   (Previously presented) The system of claim 56, wherein the processor is to write to the second register file in response to the first register file having a predicate value to be written by a pending instruction.